



## **NEWS RELEASE**

For immediate release

Contact: Tami Back | [tback@hampton.gov](mailto:tback@hampton.gov) | 757-727-6191

22 Lincoln Street | Hampton, VA 23669

# **Fires occur in two city trash trucks**

On Monday, June 25 fires broke out in the hoppers of two city trash trucks. The exact causes of the fires have not been determined, but city personnel believe hot coals (possibly from a barbeque pit) or prohibited chemicals placed in the trash may have caused the fires.

At 9:30 a.m. a fire occurred in a trash truck on Wedgewood Drive. The driver immediately pulled the vehicle over and summoned Hampton Fire and Rescue. Once on the scene, firefighters partially distinguished the fire on board and directed the driver to dump the load. Once dumped, the fire was fully extinguished.

At 2:30 p.m. a fire occurred in a trash truck on Winchester Drive. A resident flagged the driver and told him he saw smoke coming from the hopper. The driver immediately dumped the load and called the fire department. Firefighters were able to extinguish the fire.

With Independence Day approaching and many residents planning holiday cook-outs, residents are reminded to only dispose of fully extinguished embers. Embers that are smoldering can catch fire easily when oxygen is reintroduced during trash pickup. It is best to allow embers to cool for three days. Residents are also reminded to never dispose of flammable liquids such as gasoline, oil, aerosol cans and turpentine in the trash.

###